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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

25X1 COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Inland and Coastal Waterways

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DATE DISTR. 30 Mar 1954

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NO. OF PAGES 7

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPP. TO  
REPORT NO.

1. The inadequate density of the railroad net and the bad condition of the roads have compelled the Soviet Government to improve its internal waterways, so that they can take more traffic. In 1951 and 1952, waterways with a total length of 113,000 kilometers were being used for traffic. Each year, they carried 120 million tons of various commodities (vegetables, wood, coal, minerals, building materials) and about 90 million passengers. The original names, as given by informant to source, have in most cases been rigidly adhered to, except where a correct form can unquestionably be established. Where possible, correct forms are given from the NIS Gazetteer; and where doubts exist, this is indicated by (?).
2. Soviet waterways now existing can be classified in the following categories:
  - a. Large waterways of the first class
  - b. Large waterways of the second class
  - c. Medium waterways
  - d. Auxiliary waterways
  - e. Inland lakes and coastal waters
  - f. Canals

25X1

SEE LAST PAGE FOR SUBJECT &amp; AREA CODE

25X1

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SECRET

-2-

3. The large waterways of the first class, listed under Para. 2. a. above, consist of.

- a. Moscow-Astrakhan and Moscow-Volga Canals, and the Volga River. Transit time for the entire stretch is about 365 hours. Departure is from both ends, i.e., Moscow and Astrakhan, that is, on even days of the month during Jun, Jul, and Sep; and on the odd days of the month, in Aug--in other words, on alternate days throughout the summer. The main harbors for passenger traffic are:

Moscow: Dimitrov, Chirni (?), Ugliche, Tutaev

Yaroslavl: Kostroma, Kineshma, Gorki, Deboksari (Tschebokssary)

Kazan: Tetiushki, Uljanovsk, Senghilei, Stavropol

Kuibyshev: Sisran, Khvalinsk, Balakovo, Marks (Marx)

Saratov: Revne (?), Kamshin <sup>in Transcaucasia</sup>, Dubovka  
Fully occupied former diplomat with <sup>in Transcaucasia</sup>  
full equipped former diplomat with <sup>in Transcaucasia</sup>

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Astrakhan:

- b. Moscow-Molotov (Line No. 30): Moscow-Volga Canal, Volga, and Kama Rivers. Length is about 2,313 kilometers. The trip lasts about 196 hours. Departure from both ends on odd days of the month in Jun, Jul, and Sep and in Aug on the even days. Traffic is organized as under "a" above, as far as Kazan. On the Kama River, the boat touches at the following towns:

Kazan: Kamakoye, Ustye, Laishevo, Chistopol, Vandovka (?)

Sokolki: Kransil Kliuc (?), Tikhie Gori (?), Meuzelinski (?)

Derbeshkinski: Karakulino (?), Nikolo (?), Berezovka (?), Kambarka (?)

Sarapul: Saigatka (?), Elovo (?), Ciastie (?)

Ossa: Beleieveva (?), Okhansk (?), Nitva (?), Krasnokams (?)

Molotov:

- c. Moscow-Ufa (Line No. 35): Moscow, Oka, Volga, Kama, and Vyelya. Total length: 2,425 kilometers. Duration: 222 hours. Departure from each end of the line on the 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 30 of each month. The harbors postal and passenger traffic are:

Moscow (south harbor): Lomona, Novoselki (?)

Rjasan: Spassk (Spasskoye), Shilovo, Kasimov, Vatazka (?)

Muron (Murom): Zhaiisk, Pavlovo, Garbatov (Gorbatov), Dzerzhinsk

SECRET

**SECRET****-3-**

25X1

Gorki: Liskovo, Jurino, Sevoksari (Tschebokssary), Koslovka

Kazan: Kanskoe Ustie (?), Laishevo (?), Chistopol (?), Bersut (?)

Sokolki (?); Krasnii-Birka (Birsk ?), Blagoveschensk (?) Ufa Total length  
is about 112 kilometers; transit time 157 hours.

- d. Molotov-Astrakhan (Line No. 32): Volga and Kama. Duration: 178 hours downstream; 236 hours upstream. Leaves Molotov and Astrakhan in Jun, Jul, and Sep, every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; in Aug, every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Principal harbors are:

Molotov: Krasnokamssk, Novilihaiki (?), Oktiabrsk (?)

Ossa: Elovo (?), Galevo (?), Sarapul, Nikolo (?), Berezovka (?)

Dobryshka (?): Tikhie Gori (?), Elabuga (?), Krasnii Kliuc (?)

Sokolni (?): Cistopol, Ulyanowssk, Syengilyei, Stravopol

Kuibyshev: Saratov, Stalingrad, Astrakhan.

- e. Omsk--Sale Khard (Line No. 73), 2723 kilometers. Duration: 199 hours downstream; 250 hours upstream. Traffic in Jul only with six trips. Omsk and Sale Khard (Salechard). The line touches: Omsk, Tara, Tevriz, Ust-Ishim (?), Tobolinsk, Uvat (Uwat), Samarovo (?), Kondinsk (Kondinskoye), Berezovo, Sale Khard.

4. The large waterways of the second class, listed under Para. 2.b. above, are:

- a. Molotov-Krasnovishersk (Line No. 68) on the Kama River (458 kilometers). Duration: 39 hours downstream; 56 hours upstream.

- b. Molotov-Slovo (?) (Line No. 69) on the Kama River. 276 kilometers. Duration: 21 hours downstream; 33 hours upstream.

- c. Kazan--Tikhle--Gori (?) (Line No. 70) on the Volga and Kama Rivers. 374 kilometers. Duration: 21 hours downstream; 33 hours upstream. Trips every four days.

- d. Semipalatinsk--Topolev Muis (?) (Line No. 71) on the Irtysch (Irish) River. 761 kilometers. Duration: 57 hours downstream; 76 hours upstream.

- e. Semipalatinsk--Omsk (Line No. 72) on the Irtysch (Irish) River. 1063 kilometers. Duration: 85 hours downstream; 96 hours upstream. Operates only in Jul and Aug. Twelve trips a month.

- f. Omsk--Nizhni Vartovsk (?) (Line No. 74) on the Irtysch (Irish) River. 2417 kilometers. Duration: 206 hours downstream; 236 hours upstream. Only in the months of Jul, Aug, and Sep. Two or three trips a month.

- g. Tiumen--Sale Khard (Salechard) (Line No. 76) on the Irtysch (Irish) River. 1951 kilometers. Duration: 155 hours downstream; 199 hours upstream. Operates only in the months of Jul, Aug, and Sep. Ten to fifteen trips a month in both directions.

**SECRET**

SECRET

25X1

-4-

- h. Tiumen-Nizhni Vartovsk (?) (Line No. 77) on the Irtysch (Irish) River. 1645 kilometers. Duration: 112 hours downstream; 147 hours upstream. Operates only in Aug and Sep (eight to ten voyages) and in the first half of Oct (two voyages).
1. Nikolaevski (Nikolaevsk)--Blagoveshchensk (Blagoveshchenesk) (Line No. 108) on the Amur River 1933 kilometers. Duration: 160 hours downstream; 208 hours upstream. Operates in Aug and Sep. Six or seven trips a month.
5. Medium waterways, listed under Para. 2.c. above, consist of:
- Archangel'sk--Emetski (Yemetsk) (Line No. 1) on the Dvina River. 215 kilometers. Duration: 16 hours, 30 minutes downstream; 21 hours 50 minutes upstream. Leaves Archangel every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Leaves Emetski (Yemetsk), every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
  - Archangel'sk--Kotlac (Kotlaa) (Line No. 2) on the Dvina River. 636 kilometers. Duration: 46 hours downstream; 63 hours upstream. Daily traffic.
  - Kotlac (Kotlaa)--Ustiug (Velikii Ustiug) (Line No. 3) on the Dvina River. 72 kilometers. Duration: 5 hours 30 minutes downstream; 9 hours 30 minutes upstream. Daily traffic.
  - Rostov--Tsimlianskaya (Zymlianskaya) (Line No. 64) on the Don River. 296 kilometers. 25 hours downstream; 34 hours upstream. Runs every ten days.
  - Rostov-Kamen'k (Kamyensk on the Donetz) (Line No. 65) on the Don River. 364 kilometers. Duration: About forty hours. Fourteen trips a month in both directions, but only from Jun to Sep.
6. Auxiliary waterways, listed under Para. 2.e. above, consist of:
- Syktyvkar-Kotlas (Line No. 7) on the Vychegda River. 433 kilometers. Duration: 33 hours downstream; 56 hours upstream. Daily.
  - Vologda--Velikiy--Ustyug (Line No. 9) on the Suchona River. 524 kilometers. Duration: 61 hours downstream; 66 hours upstream. Every other day.
  - Peciora (Podsherye ?)-Nahrian Mar (Line No. 12) on the Pechora River. 796 kilometers. Duration: 83 hours downstream; 116 hours upstream. Daily.
  - Kirov-Sokoloki (Line No. 17) on the Vyatka River. 767 kilometers. Duration: 65 hours downstream; 105 hours upstream. Daily.
  - Leningrad-Novaya-Ladoga (Line No. 19) on the Neva River and the Nova Ladoga Canal. 174 kilometers. Duration: 20 hours each way. Daily.
  - Leningrad-Medvezhegorsk (Line No. 20) on the Neva River, Lake Ladoga, the Svir, and Lake Onega. 889 kilometers. Duration: Downstream, 65 hours; upstream, 76 hours. Twice weekly.
  - Novgorod-Vokhovo (Line No. 23) on the Volkhov River. 74 kilometers. Duration: 5 hours each way. Daily.

25X1

SECRET

**SECRET**

-5-

- h. Novgorod-Shimsk (?) (Line No. 24) on Lake Ilmen, Volkov River and Shelon River. 59 kilometers. Duration: About 6 hours each way. Daily.
- i. Novgorod-Staraya Russa (Line No. 25) on Lake Ilmen and the Volkov, Lovat, and Polyst Rivers. 75 kilometers. Duration: 6 hours each way. Daily.
- j. Nauvaz-Sovetsk (?) (Line No. 41) on the Memel River. 150 kilometers. Duration: About 11 hours each way. Daily.
- k. Sovetsk-Kaliningrad (Königsberg) (Line No. 43) on the Memel River. 152 kilometers. Duration: About 13 hours each way. Daily.
- l. Bobruisk-Loyev (Line No. 45) on the Beresina and Dniepr Rivers. 292 kilometers. Duration: 25 hours downstream; 34 hours upstream. Daily.
- m. Mozir (?)-Kiev (Line No. 49) on the Pripyat and Dniepr Rivers. 299 kilometers. Duration: 24 hours downstream; 34 hours upstream. Daily.
- n. Kiev-Kherson (Line No. 51) on the Dniepr River. 920 kilometers. Duration: 43 hours going; 87 hours returning. Daily.
- o. Kiev-Chernigov (Line No. 54) on the Dniepr and Desna Rivers. 214 kilometers. Duration: 17 hours downstream; 26 hours upstream. Daily.
- p. Bobruish-Mo-Borisov (Line No. 58) on the Berezina Rivers. 232 kilometers. Duration: 23 hours downstream; 34 hours upstream. 20 trips a month.
- q. Nikolayev-Voznesensk (Line No. 62) on the Bug River. 101 kilometers. Duration: About 7 hours each way. Daily.
- r. Pinsk-David Gorodok (Line No. 73) on the Pina, Pripyat, and Gori (?) Rivers. 133 kilometers. Duration: About 15 hours each way. Daily.
- s. Novosibirskiy-Nizhniy Vartovsk (?) (Line No. 80) on a river reported by information as the "Bob" River--obviously the Ob (Obi). 1,347 kilometers. Duration: about 148 hours downstream; 155 hours upstream. Aug to Oct, twice a month.
7. Inland lakes and coastal waters, listed under Para 2.e. above, had the following steamship lines at the beginning of 1953:
- a. Odessa-Batum, with the following harbors: Evpatoria (Yevpatoriya), Sevastopol, Yalta, Feodosia, Novorossisk, Tuapse, Sochi, Gagry, Suchum, Poti, Batum. Duration: southeastern direction, 155 hours; northwestern direction, 158 hours.
- b. Odessa-Kherson, with the following harbors: Ochakov, Stanislav. Duration: About 9 hours 30 minutes.
- c. Odessa-Nikolayev, touching at Ochakov. Duration 7 hours 30 minutes.

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

25X1

-6-

- d. Odessa-Ismail, with the following harbors: Burgas (?), Vilkovo (Val'kovo), Kilya. Duration: 26 hours, each way.
- e. Baku-Krasnovodsk. Duration: 16 hours each way. Sailings from Baku: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; from Krasnovodsk: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday.
- f. Baku-Astrakhan, touching at Makhach-Kala, Duration: 11 hours each way. Five to six sailings monthly in both directions.
- g. Murmansk-Archangel'sk. Duration: 50 hours each way. Weekly.
- h. Murmansk-Yokanga (White Sea). Duration: 40 hours, going; 50 hours returning. Weekly. (No inhabited place named Yokanga has been located. The difference in time, however, suggests that at least part of the course is river travel. The Yokanga River is plainly indicated.)
- i. Murmansk-Oserki (?) (Barents Sea). Going: 26 hours; returning: 20 hours. Weekly.
- j. Murmansk-Polyarnoye (Barents Sea). Goes and returns same day. Trip every other day.
- k. Archangel'sk-Omega (White Sea). Going: 73 hours; return: 63 hours. Two trips a month in each direction.
- l. Archangel'sk-Kandalaksha (White Sea). Going: 68 hours; returning: 79 hours. Weekly.
- m. Archangel'sk-Mesen (Mesen, Kamenka (White Sea). 36 hours 30 minutes travel time. Five to six trips a month, in both directions.
- n. Archangel'sk-Pesha (White Sea and Barents Sea). 30 hour voyage. Weekly.
- o. Archangel'sk-Marjan Mar (White Sea, Barents Sea). Going: 51 hours; returning 34 hours. Touches at Bugrino, on Kolguyev Island. Two or three trips a month in both directions.
- 8. Canal traffic, referred to in Para. 2.f. above, has been greatly expanded by the Soviet Government. The Volga-Don Canal, connecting Stalingrad and Kalatch was opened for traffic in Mar 1952. This canal has a length of 101 kilometers, with several pumping stations and loading docks. At the same time, the following canals are being built:
  - a. Voskhod Canal, between Bimlyansk and Proletarskaya, 190 kilometers in length
  - b. Verkhni (?) Sal Canal, between Martinovka (?) and the junction of the Sal and Gashum Rivers, 150 kilometers in length
  - c. Nizhni Don Canal, between Voshod and Semikarakorskiy 73 kilometers in length
  - d. Bogalev Canal (?) between Komarov and Bogaievsk (?) railway station, 35 kilometers in length

**SECRET**

25X1

SECRET

-7-

- e. Sadkov Canal, between Veselyy and Kulenoskova (?), 15 kilometers in length. This canal will probably get its water from the Veselovski basin, though this is not absolutely certain.
- f. Ierghin Canal (?), location not wholly clear, with a length of 140 kilometers. It will get its water from the water impounding basin of Varvarovka, on the Volga-Den Canal.
- g. Seiliski Canal (?) between Nizhnie Chirskaya and Krasno Bogdanov, 90 kilometers in length. The canal will get its water from the impounding basin of Tsimlyansk.

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